

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:  
providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system, the response including at least one pointer indicating a location of additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system; and  
transmitting the response to the network management system.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving the response in the network management system; and  
transmitting the pointer to a network management system user.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
receiving a request for additional information in the network management system; and  
opening the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
performing a function relating to network management in a network element; and  
storing information concerning the function as additional information in a predetermined location in a predetermined form.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
performing a function relating to network management in a network element; and  
storing information concerning the function as additional information in a location determined by the network management system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the response is an alarm transmitted to the network management system.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the pointer identifies both the location of the additional information and a protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:

providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system, the response including at least one pointer indicating a location of additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, the pointer identifying both the location and a protocol; and  
transmitting the response to the network management system.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:

providing an alarm to be transmitted to the network management system with at least one pointer indicating a location of additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, the pointer identifying both the location and a protocol; and  
transmitting the alarm to the network management system.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:

performing a function relating to network management in a network element;  
storing information concerning the function as additional information at a predetermined location in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, in a predetermined form;

providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system with at least one pointer indicating the location ~~where~~ of the additional information, the pointer identifying both the location and a protocol;

transmitting the response to the network management system;

receiving a request for the additional information in the network management system;  
and  
opening the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:  
performing a function relating to network management in a network element;  
storing information concerning the function as additional information at a predetermined location in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, in a predetermined form;  
providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system with at least one pointer indicating the location of the additional information;  
transmitting the response to the network management system;  
receiving a request for the additional information in the network management system;  
and  
opening the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:  
performing a function relating to network management in a network element;  
storing information concerning the function as additional information at a location in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, determined by the network management system;  
providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system with at least one pointer indicating the location of the additional information, the pointer identifying both the location and a protocol;  
transmitting the response to the network management system;  
receiving a request for the additional information in the network management system;  
and  
opening the additional information ~~in~~ at the location indicated by the pointer.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of data transmission to a network management system, the method comprising:

performing a function relating to network management in a network element;  
storing information concerning the function as additional information at a location in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, determined by the network management system;  
providing a response to be transmitted to the network management system with at least one pointer indicating the location of the additional information;  
transmitting the response to the network management system;  
receiving a request for the additional information in the network management system;  
and  
opening the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer.

14. (Currently Amended) A network element of a telecommunications network, the network element configured to connect with a network management system of the telecommunications network by transmitting to the network management system at least one response provided with a pointer indicating a location where to find additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system.

15. (Currently Amended) A network element of a telecommunications network, the network element being configured to store additional information in a predetermined location in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system and to be in connection with a network management system of the telecommunications network by transmitting to the network management system at least one response provided with a pointer indicating the location of the additional information.

16. (Currently Amended) A network element of a telecommunications network, the network element being configured to store additional information in a predetermined form and to be in connection with a network management system of the telecommunications network by transmitting to the network management system at least one response provided with a pointer indicating a location of the additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system.

17. (Currently Amended) A network management system of a telecommunications network, the network management system being configured to receive responses from network elements of the telecommunications network and to identify a pointer in a response, the pointer indicating where to find additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system.

18. (Previously Presented) The network management system of claim 17, wherein the network management system is adapted to open the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer in response to a received request for the additional information.

19. (Previously Presented) The network management system of claim 17, wherein the network management system is adapted to identify the pointer in the response, if it identifies both the location and a required protocol.

20. (Currently Amended) A network management system of a telecommunications network, the network management system being configured to receive responses from network elements of the telecommunications network; to identify a pointer in a response, the pointer indicating a location of additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system; and to open the additional information at the location indicated by the pointer in response to a received request for the additional information.

21. (Currently Amended) A network management system of a telecommunications network, the network management system being configured to receive responses from network elements of the telecommunications network and to identify a pointer in a response, the pointer indicating a location of additional information in a data communication network or network element external to the network management system, if the pointer identifies both the location and a required protocol.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer program for a telecommunications network, comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium, wherein the computer program product comprises a routine for performing the function of a network element as claimed in claim 14.

23. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for a telecommunications network, comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium, wherein the computer program product comprises a routine for performing the function of a network management system as claimed in claim 17.